

Message Text

SECRET

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

EUR:AAHARTMAN

S/S - FVORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 091584

NODIS

E.O. 11652, XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR

SUBJECT: THE SECRETARY'S APRIL 15 CONVERSATION WITH BITSIOS
ON THE AEGEAN

REF: (A) ANKARA 2947, (B) ANKARA 2958, (C) ANKARA 2961

1. TEXTS OF SECRETARY-BITSIOS LETTERS REMAIN SAME AS
TRANSMITTED TO YOU IN STATE 90620. EXCHANGE WAS MADE
PUBLIC HERE TODAY, APRIL 15.
2. YOU SHOULD TELL CAGLAYANGIL THAT THE SECRETARY, IN RE-
SPONSE TO HIS EXPRESSION OF CONCERN, IN THE FINAL MEETING
WITH BITSIOS APRIL 15 RAISED THE QUESTION OF REPORTS THAT
GREECE MIGHT INTEND TO EXTEND ITS TERRITORIAL WATERS TO
12 MILES. HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE US WOULD BE STRONGLY
OPPOSED TO ANY UNILATERAL ACTION BY EITHER SIDE WHICH MIGHT
LEAD TO CONFRONTATION IN THE AEGEAN, AND HE SPECIFICALLY
CITED A GREEK TWELVE-MILE DECLARATION IN THIS REGARD.
BITSIOS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE UNDER-
STANDS THAT THE EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL WATERS IN THE
AEGEAN WOULD BE A HIGHLY POLITICAL ACT. HE SAID THAT
GREECE COULD NOT RELINQUISH ITS LEGAL POSITION, BUT HE

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ASSURED THE SECRETARY THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE IS

NOT REPEAT NOT CONTEMPLATING A TWELVE-MILE DECLARATION.
IN ENDING THIS DISCUSSION THE SECRETARY AGAIN EMPHASIZED
THE DANGEROUS ASPECTS OF SUCH A UNILATERAL ACTION, AND
BITSIOS SAID THE GREEK GOVERNMENT FULLY UNDERSTOOD THE
IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE.

3. YOU MAY CONVEY FOLLOWING RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ELEK-
DAG RAISED PARA 3(A) REF C: (A) "PRINCIPLES" STATE ONLY
THAT "A PART OF" \$700 MILLION WILL BE GRANT ASSISTANCE.
ACTUAL AMOUNT OF GRANT AID, WHICH WAS NOT DISCUSSED
WITH BITSIOS, WILL BE NEGOTIATED LATER. (B) WE DID NOT
DISCUSS ANY SUPPLEMENTAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE WITH BIT-
SIOS, (C) THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC AMOUNTS
OF EX-IM CREDITS, BUT WE REAFFIRMED THAT GREECE WOULD
CONTINUE TO HAVE ACCESS TO EX-IM FACILITIES.
KISSINGER

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